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The Hongkong Telegraph

VOL. II NO. 90

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15, 1947.

Price 20 Cents

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For
Reservations

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BEVIN WANTS A FIRM SOLID TREATY

6,000 FLEE FROM
VOLCANO

Manila, Jan. 15.
Six thousand Southern
Luzon residents crowded
into evacuation centres after
fleeing the vicinity of the
violently erupting Mayon
volcano.

Every three hours the
volcano spouts fiery lava and
boulders. Volcanic clouds
rise to 10,000 feet above
the peak.

The Weather Bureau
observer in Legaspi said that
the eruptions are getting
worse. So far no villages
have been reached by lava,
but the residents were or-
dered out as a precaution.
—Associated Press.

SALE OF PALACE HOTEL

Price Said To Be
HK\$5,500,000

The Hongkong Telegraph
learns that negotiations have
been completed for the sale
of the Palace Hotel property
in Shanghai belonging to the
Hongkong and Shanghai
Hotels, Ltd.

The sale price is understood to be
\$5,500,000 (U.S.), and the buyers are
the Doh Ching Co. of Shanghai, a
private Chinese business concern
which operates several cotton mills
and also owns the Ciro property on
Bubbling Well Road.

Situated at the corner of the Bund
and Nanjing Road, opposite Sassoon
House and the Cathay Hotel, the
Palace Hotel has been run by the
Hongkong and Shanghai Hotels, Ltd.
for many years. Its present
manager is Mr. L. Gaddi, who was
manager of the Hongkong Hotel
during the BMA period here.

FUTURE PLANS

The buyers, it is learned, intend
to redevelop the property by erecting
an 18-storey bank and office
building on the site. The architectural
work will be in the hands of
Mr. E. B. Cumine, A.R.B.A.

Interviewed this morning, an
official of the Hotel Co. neither con-
firmed nor denied the report of
the sale, remarking: "I cannot say
anything at present."

Nevertheless, it has been known
for several days that negotiations
have been going on, and the price of
Hotel shares has been going up
steadily in the stock market. Quoted
at \$16.50 per share about a week
ago, the shares have now gone up
to \$18.50, and it is learned that
business was put through as high as
\$19.

EDITORIAL

Automobile Assn. Wanted

Hongkong motorists, at the present time, are being hard hit by petty
thieves who descend on unattended cars, even in daylight, and
who do not hesitate to siphon petrol from the tanks. Even city
cars, wide open to public view, are no protection against these depredations.
The police, laden with a multitude of duties, are unable to keep a
close enough check on parked cars. The job, to be done effectively, calls
for reinforcements. What they, and car owners, need to assist them is
a mobile body of men who can move rapidly from place to place and
sweep down on these plunderers.

Before the war Hongkong enjoyed the services of a well organized
Automobile Association, whose scouts always seemed at hand to lend
assistance to a driver who found himself stranded with a broken-
down car. The Hongkong Automobile Association has not yet been re-
surrected, and this seems to be the right moment for such an action.
The number of owners of private vehicles has increased at a great pace
during the past few months, and the rate will continue to accelerate for
a long time. In their own interests, they should band together, and
with the assistance of the police, restart the Hongkong Automobile
Association. There should be no great difficulty in obtaining the
financial support necessary to maintain patrol scouts. The consequent
benefits which members would enjoy in the way of additional and
special protection for their cars during office hours and after dark would
more than offset the modest demands likely to be made on their pockets.

More than 20 years ago the "Hongkong Telegraph" was appointed the
official organ of the Hongkong Automobile Association. To-day, the
"Telegraph" makes the sincere offer to give practical support and
encouragement to any old members or new car owners to re-form the
Association. It makes the offer because it believes that such an
organization can perform a very valuable public service in these days
when private property, such as motor cars, become so vulnerable to the
machinations of thieves and vagabonds.

Big Four Preparing German Peace Terms

London, Jan. 15.

Britain's Foreign Secretary, Mr Ernest
Bevin, called yesterday for a German peace
treaty "so firm, so solid, so conceived that it
will save the world for hundreds of years
from . . . the travail and turmoil of another
war."

His short address reported by the British
Foreign Office was made before the first closed
meeting of the Big Four Deputy Foreign Ministers,
convening to begin the preliminaries of drafting
peace treaties for Austria and Germany.

"I am deeply and sincerely concerned," Mr
Bevin said, "that nothing should be done which would
enable Germany to become a military power again."

Mr Bevin said the Austrian peace
treaty should not handicap Austria
economically and added:

"Austria was left in 1919 like a
tadpole with Vienna her great head
and with very little tail. If the
Danube countries could co-operate
economically, that State would be
avoided."

He urged "effective" preparatory
work on the German treaty, saying:
"There is a great desire to work with
a plan" that would prevent war for
many centuries.

HOLLAND'S DEMAND

Little Holland, one of the first
western States overrun by warring
Nazis, demanded a stern peace for
Germany and a "moral reconstruction"
of her people.

The Netherlands, in a memo-
randum to the Deputies' Council,
asked that the German people
themselves be made to pay the full
cost of occupation and reconstruction,
and urged strict measures to
ensure Germany's demilitarisation
and disarmament.

The document called for a de-
centralised Germany and an inter-
national "regime" to control in-
dustries in the Ruhr and Rhineland,
sent of Germany's war potential.

The Deputies met in their first
closed session at 11 p.m. Hongkong
time yesterday with Foreign Secre-
tary Ernest Bevin presiding a short
welcoming address. British and
American sources said the meeting
would be taken entirely with dis-
cussions of procedural matters.

Mr Robert Murphy, Secretary of
State George C. Marshall's deputy
for Germany, planned separate con-
ferences after yesterday with his
Russian and French opposite num-
bers. Deputy Foreign Minister
Fedor Gusev and Maurice Couve de
Murville.

An American official said they
were expected to be "courtesy talks".
Murphy conferred on Monday with
the British Deputy for Germany, Sir
William Strang.—Associated Press.

AUSTRIAN TREATY

Leeds, Jan. 14.
The diplomatic correspondent of
the leading North England Conserva-
tive news paper Yorkshire Post wrote
to-day that "while no details of the
British draft treaty for Austria have
been published—the British draft is
understood to contain the following
"nine points":

1. A free and independent Aus-
tria.
 2. The withdrawal of all Allied
troops from Austria.
 3. Freedom of navigation on the
Danube.
 4. Support for Austria in
joining the United Nations
Organisation.
 5. Austria's frontiers to be those
of 1938—that is before the
annexation with Germany.
 6. Non-recognition of Yugo-
Slav and Czech territorial claims
on Austria.
 7. No reparations.
 8. Complete religious freedom
and non-discrimination in trade.
 9. Agreement on German assets
in Austria to be based mainly on
recognition as German property of
plants erected after 1938 (date of
annexation) only.
- The United States draft is on
similar lines and France, it is be-
lieved, supports the main outlines of
the British draft, the correspondent
said.
- He added: "Britain and the
United States are also expected to
urge that Austria should be allowed
to maintain her own security forces
to protect her frontiers."—Reuter.

"TREMENDOUS—IF TRUE"

Washington, Jan. 14.
Reports published in Britain and
the United States from Berlin
sources that Russia is prepared to
renounce all claims to reparations
from the current production of Ger-
many were described to-day by
United States State Department
officials, as "Tremendous news if it
is true."

It was added that the State De-
partment could not give any con-
firmation of the reports, which were
attributed to "topflight Russians in-
terviewed in Berlin."

The reports said that the Russians
at the Moscow conference of Foreign
Ministers in March on the peace
settlement with Germany and Aus-
tria, will throw their full weight
behind the plan for an economic as
well as a political unity in Germany.

To secure the success of this plan
the Russians will renounce all claims
to reparations from the current pro-
duction both in their own occupa-
tion zone and in the Allied zones, the
reports added.—Reuter.

CREDITS FOR ITALY

Premier's Success In America

Washington, Jan. 15.
The United States gave Italian
Premier Sig. Alcide De Gasperi
farewell assurances of \$100,000,000
in credits for his country as he
prepared to return to Rome.
Less than three hours before the
Premier was scheduled to board the
plane, the Export Import Bank
announced that it had decided to
"reimburse" that sum to help "specific
segments of Italian industry."

The Bank told the Italian Foreign
Trade Minister, Sig. Pietro Campilli,
however, that extension of a series of
"individual credits" to Italian
industry depends "upon conditions of
Italy of stability and upon the
ability to provide for the maintenance
of its economy."

Officials said in this statement an
implied warning to the IV "that
political disturbances may . . . use the
Bank to change its mind."—Associated
Press.

1947 Derby Winner



Norse Queen, winner of the Hongkong Derby at Happy
Valley yesterday, being led in after his popular success by
the owner, Mr. R. Johannessen, and Mrs. Johannessen. Norse
Queen was piloted to victory by Ostrumoff. (Photo Ming
Yuen).

Entombed Miners Found Dead

Edinburgh, Jan. 14.

All thirteen men entomb-
ed behind a wall of rock
and flame after an explo-
sion in a shaft oil pit at
West Calder, Midlothian, on
Friday were found dead
when rescue squads reached
them to-day.

The fires started after-
wards may burn for years
and the portion of the pit
affected may be sealed off.
—Reuter.

Socialist As President Of French National Assembly

Paris, Jan. 14.
The French National Assembly to-day elected Socialist
Vincent Auriol as President. M. Auriol obtained 294 votes.

The former Finance Minister, M.
Robert Schuman (MRP), got 194
votes and the Left Republican Union,
M. Claudius Petit, 75.

The National Assembly and the
Council of the Republic also elected
other officials.

For the Assembly: Vice-presidents,
Jacques Duclos (Communist),
Madame Germaine Peyroles (MRP),
Mme Madeleine Braun (Communist),
Fernand Bouxom (MRP), Yvon Del-
bos (Radical Socialist) and Jules
Rampony (PRL).

Council of the Republic: Vice-
presidents, Georges Marras (Com-
munist), Mme Gilberte Bessolotte
(Socialist), Gaston Monnerville
(Left Republican Union).

The Communist deputy, Marcel
Cachin, opening the French National
Assembly, warned that Germany the
"spirit of Hitler is still
widespread."

Taking a firm anti-German stand,
Cachin said 18 months after the war,
"the German population is increasing
and three-quarters of their industry
is intact."

He said German chemical and
metallurgical industries were "ready
to operate" and in Germany one
"sees no signs of repentance or
regret."

"It is in these conditions that
unification of the British and Ameri-
can zones in Germany is announced
and it is revealed that important
credits are to be given Germany to
enable the Germans to reconstitute
their economic power within three
years. The French people cannot
but note that this is a renewal of the
errors of 1919."—United Press.

COMING TO H.K.

London, Jan. 14.
Mr Geoffrey de Freitas, Under-
Secretary of State for Air, leaves
England to-morrow in a Lancaster
of the RAF Transport Command for
a 24,000 mile tour of overseas com-
mands of the Royal Air Force in
Greece, the Middle East, India,
Malaya, China, Japan, Korea and
Rhodesia.
He will return early in March.
—Reuter.

PALESTINE ARABS WILL RESIST PARTITION PLAN

Jerusalem, Jan. 14.
Palestine Arabs would resolutely oppose partition in
any form as a solution of the Palestine problem, according
to a Palestine Arab Higher Committee statement to-day.

The statement said that British
press reports gave the impression
that the partition was being seriously
considered in the British Govern-
ment. "These reports are part of
a propaganda campaign to give the
partition a favourable reception," it
added.

The statement also announced the
committee's decision to ask the
Palestine Government to approve the
principle of elections to the Supreme
Muslim Council—a body set up
under British mandate to deal with
Palestine Muslim affairs.

If the Palestine Government agree
to this the Higher Committee re-

solved unanimously to accept the
recent government appointments to
the Council.

Two nominees had already
accepted the office in defiance of a
directive by the Committee to all
Arabs to refuse office if it was
offered.

The Secretary of the Committee
told Reuter: "When the Palestine
Arab delegation reach London they
propose to make it clear to the
British Government that they will
insist on their national aspirations.
We shall ask the British Government
to end the mandate and honour
their promises by granting Palestine
independence."

SOCIALISM IN JAPAN. FEAR

Washington Closely
Keeping Watch

Washington, Jan. 15.
The rise of the Japanese labour
movement is being watched with
increasing concern here, as a
possibly indicative of the future
course of Japan.

Officials and civilians interested
in the shape of things to come in the
island Oriental empire, are wonder-
ing if the growing union movement
will turn its attention mainly to
politics or whether it actually will
work for an improved national
economy.

Some say the future of the Allied
occupation of Japan is wrapped up
in the country's labour programme.

POWELL'S OPINION

J. B. Powell, publisher and editor
of the China Weekly Review in
Shanghai, in an article written here,
for his magazine, said "many
thoughtful observers of the Tokyo
scene are convinced that the suc-
cess or failure of the American pro-
gramme in accomplishing its ob-
jective—a democratic Japan—de-
pends to a large extent on the
future course of the Japanese labour
movement on anything else."

While in Japan, as prosecution
witness at the war crimes trial,
Powell studied the developments
affecting the nation's rehabilitation.
Powell in a survey of Japanese
labour trends asserted "to-day two
rival high-powered labour organisa-
tions are striving to form the na-
tional labour groups in an imitation
of the American federation labour
movement. The congress of industrial or-
ganisations in the United States—
Associated Press.

French Find 50 Japanese Bodies Among Slain Viet Namhese

From Doon Campbell

Hanoi, Jan. 14.
The bodies of 50 Japanese killed while aiding the
Viet Namhese against French troops have been
found since the hostilities started in December, the
French military headquarters announced to-day.

The announcement reiterated the French allegations
that the Japanese are giving "considerable assistance" to
Viet Namhese forces.

The Japanese whose bodies have been found here re-
ported to include a number holding military command. The
Japanese are reported to be acting chiefly as military in-
structors and gunners.

The French military authorities
are now carrying out a close checkup
of all Japanese in Hanoi and
special identity cards are being
issued.

French Spitfires strafed the air-
port area of Hanoi to-day before
armoured jeeps and half tracks
went into action in what was de-
scribed as a "completely successful"
mopping-up operation, states a semi-
official French report.

Skirmishing between the French
and Viet Namhese forces continued near
Nam Dinh, about 50 miles south-east
of Hanoi, and French patrols smoked

out several Viet Namhese machinegun
nests.

BIG TROOP MOVEMENTS

From Langson in the north the
Viet Namhese were reported to be
moving up heavy reinforcements and
large-scale Viet Namhese troop
movements were also believed to be
going on around Nam Dinh.

French troops have to-day been
engaged in combined operations
against the Viet Namhese forces who
are still hanging on in the western
suburbs of Hanoi. The French

attack, which began at dawn, was
carried out by mechanised forces
supported from the air. To-night,
semi-official reports say that despite
the French attack the sector is still
in the control of Viet Namhese forces.

The Viet Namhese to-night re-
ported that French troops from
Touane, about 350 miles south of
Hanoi, have launched an attack on
the Viet Namhese forces between
Touane and Hue, 40 miles north.

HUE ISOLATED

The French military authorities
in Hanoi have not issued any com-
munications on the operation, which
would appear to be a French at-
tempt to establish road contact be-
tween Touane and Hue. Contact
has been cut since the beginning of
the fighting.

Hue, capital of Annam, is com-
pletely isolated as the result of the
breakdown in road communications.
The French aeroplane the French
garrison at Hue has been harassed
by Viet Namhese forces for several
days and urgently needs rations
and other necessities from Touane
as well as reinforcements.

Meanwhile, the only serviceable
cinema house in Hanoi was open
to the public again to-day, but be-
cause of the French military curfew
performances were limited to the
daytime. All cafes, clubs, dance
halls and other such establishments
have been closed down "because of
a state of siege." The sale of liquor
for consumption on the spot is for-
bidden and punishable by law.—
Reuter.

FRENCH LANDINGS

Paris, Jan. 15.
Viet Namhese reports from Ino-
China said last night that French
troops had landed at Touane half
day down Indo-China's eastern
coastline and were fighting north-
ward along highway in an effort
to relieve the siege of the French
garrison at Hue.

Hue, about 400 miles south of the
main centre of fighting at Hanoi, has
been besieged by the Viet Namhese
for the last three weeks. It is 60
miles by road from Touane.

French sources did not comment
on the report. It was broadcast
over the clandestine Viet Namhese radio
and distributed in Paris by the semi-
official French Press Agency in a
dispatch from Hanoi.

Since new aspects of the fighting
at Hanoi were reported by Associated
Press correspondent Leif Erickson
who disclosed the existence of a
fanatical Viet Namhese militaristic
young organisation called the "Tu
Vo."

One thousand "Tu Vo" troops,
surrounded by the French in Hue,
in a sector also jammed with 10,000
Chinese civilians and 8,000 Annamite
natives, have been trying to fight
their way out, Erickson reported.
French forces repulsed several "Tu
Vo" attacks.—Associated Press.

Twelve Nations Cry Out For Food Relief

Lake Success, Jan. 15.
Twelve war damaged countries were reported to
have informed the United Nations that they will need
close to \$1,000,000,000 in emergency food relief during
1947. The requests were submitted to the Committee
of United Nations experts last week, but not yet
published.

The countries included the Philip-
pines, Korea, Poland, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia,
Greece, China, Italy, Hungary, Austria, Finland and
Ethiopia.

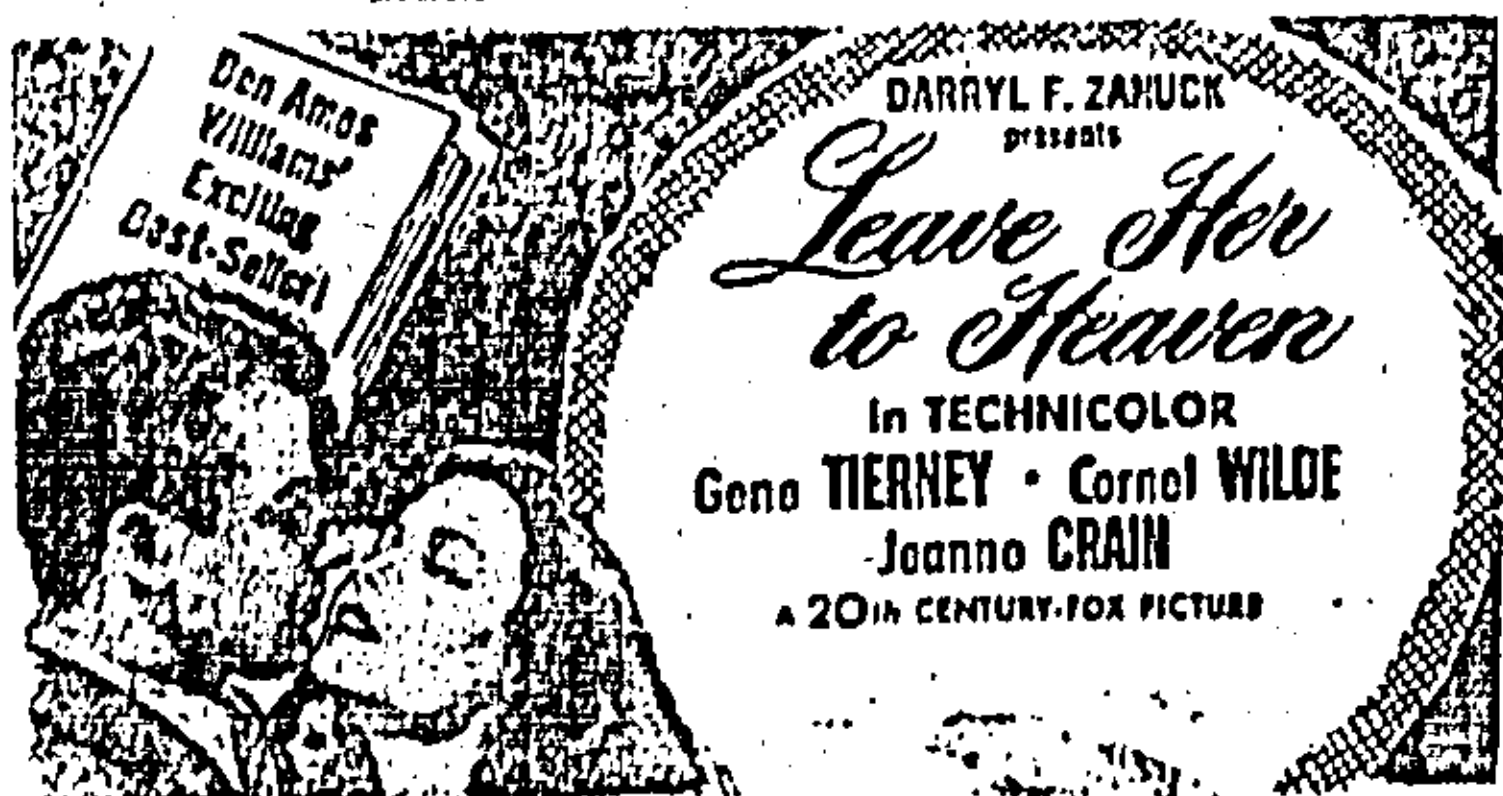
Under a plan approved at the last
session of the General Assembly,
these requests will be forwarded to
individual members of the United
Nations for voluntary action. Sena-
tors, including the United States,
have indicated they are pre-
pared to continue individually the re-

lief job remaining after the expla-
nation of UNRRA. It had not been
expected, however, that the requests
would be so large.

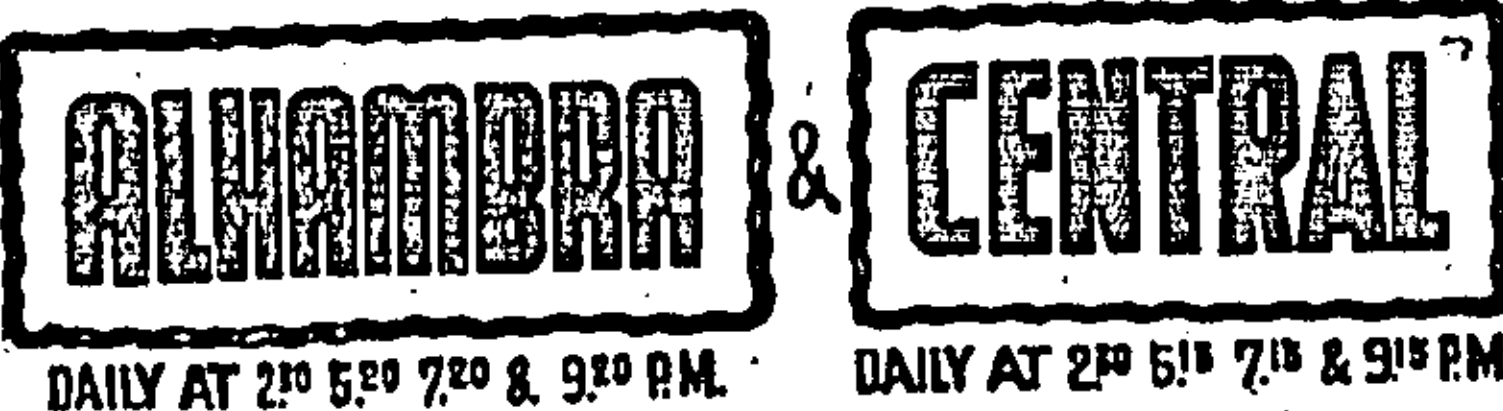
In Washington Chairman Vandenberg of the Senate Foreign Relations
Committee said that the Committee
undoubtedly will consider legislation
for relief work in war-torn countries
to supplement former UNRRA as-
sistance. He said that the sum of
\$400,000,000 for such relief had been
under discussion.—Associated Press.

SHOWING
TO-DAY

QUEEN'S

At 2.30, 5.15,
7.15 & 9.15 p.m.

NEXT CHANGE



TO-DAY & TO-MORROW

HIGH PRIESTESS of SINISTER RITES!

Beauty veils her murderous
heart, as she leads the
beast-claw man in wild
Cult of Death!EDGAR RICE BURROUGHS
TARZAN
Leopard WomanJOHNNY WEISSMULLER • BRENDA JOYCE • JOHNNY SHEFFIELD
ACQUANETTA • KURT NEUBERGER

NEXT CHANGE

at the ALHAMBRA at the CENTRAL
"ICE-CAPADES" "SUBMARINE RAIDER"
with James ELLISON with John HOWARDTHE SPARKLING COMEDY
"MADAME LOUISE"

By VERNON SYLVAINE

DIRECT FROM ITS PHENOMENAL RUN
AT THE GARRICK THEATRE

NIGHTLY AT 7.30 P.M.

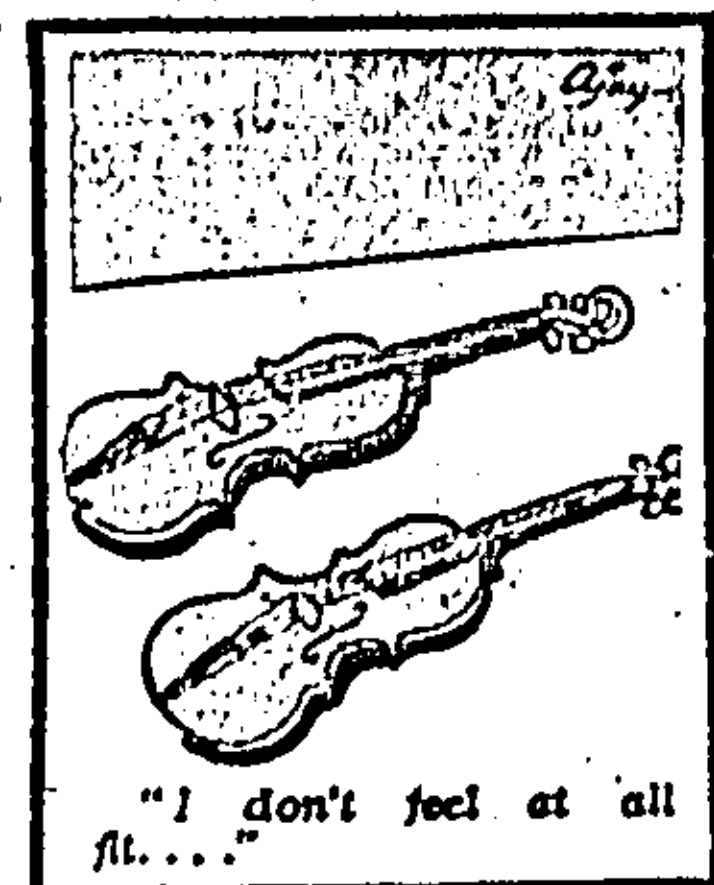
BOOKING HOURS: 12 p.m.—2 p.m. 4 p.m.—6.30 p.m.
TELEPHONE: 58335.SERVICES: \$2.50, \$1.50, 80c.
CIVILIANS: \$3.00, \$1.90, \$1.00 (Including Tax).

SHOWING

MAJESTIC

At 2.30, 5.20,
7.20 & 9.20 p.m.TO-DAY THE GLORIOUS ROMANCE OF THE SHOW WORLD!
19 GREAT SONGS!JUDY GARLAND in
"FOR ME AND MY GAL"
with GEORGE MURPHY • GENE KELLY
A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture
NEXT CHANGE: ROBERT TAYLOR in
"BILLY THE KID" In Technicolor!Dine At
The Cock & Pullet Restaurant
7-9 DUDELL STREET (Side of Bank of China)
RESERVATIONS TEL. 28252.

POCKET CARTOON



WILLIAM HICKEY

PICKING A
HUSBANDMATRONLY advice on picking a
husband by Mrs. JOAN AGAR."Sincerity comes first... Pick a
man who looks straight at you; not
one who looks at the floor when he
talks... Pick a man who has the
will to work. Looks do not matter
... If a girl's family has money, let
her be sure he is not marrying her
for that."She is SHIRLEY TEMPLE to you
and 12 months married.BABIES and the very young in the
children's wards of ten London
hospitals were perky and cheerful on
Christmas Day in new woolly bed-
jackets.It was the twentieth year it had
happened. In which time Mrs.
ERNEST WARD has given away
more than 33,000 bed-jackets. Even
this time, constrained as she has
been by coupons and wool scarcity,
she had 603 to give away.Black-jowled and bearded, Mrs.
Ward might be mistaken for one of
the idle rich because she has lived in
luxury at the Savoy since her home
stopped one of the earlier bombs.
Yet for years she has been up at five
o'clock every morning knitting.Each year she has made 100 of
these coats, which works out by my
reckoning at one every three and a
half days all the year round. And
they are beautifully made.Three years running, "helped by
friends I know and more I have
never met, who live everywhere
from the Shetlands to Singapore,"
she had 5,000 jackets to give away
at Christmas. Boxes on her arm,
she used to go to 50 London hospi-
tals; has wartime-cut to ten.It all began when her daughter
was V.A.D. at University College
Hospital. Prince George was com-
ing, and the young nurse did want
the children to look nice. So Mrs.
Ward said she would knit the 30
bed-jackets "which started an ob-
session which has given me infinite
pleasure."

And others.

ENJOYING a seasonable boom is a
profitable racket in lunch- and
dinner bills from London's swank
spots.Waiters usually take the bill away
when you have paid, and these are
saleable "rounds" for the corner
people with parsimonious habits but
large expense accounts for hospitali-
ties. Prices are rising; currently up
to 12s. 6d. is offered for a £4 bill.

Nothing is sacred to me!

BECAUSE a British heart still beats
in an American breast, what is
left of a very fine cake topped by a
sugar-icing Meteor, is in the mess
of No. 222 Fighter Squadron at
Tangmere.Tousled-haired JOHN LOCK,
cherubic chief purser of the new
liner America, was ill in New York
and could not make her maiden
voyage.This good American citizen has
sailed in American ships for 35
years. But when he heard that an
RAF fighter squadron had dipped in
salute to the flagship of his line as
she came up Southampton Water for
the first time, then the British sen-
timental bit of him, born in Win-
chester, England, won out.By the time the liner docked on
the second trip, John Lock, well
again, had fixed a squadron party,
and produced the sort of cake that
mother tried to make. And it was
decorated with the not very Ameri-
can expression "Good luck, chaps."FROM a London evening:
"Heir to the barony is his
eldest son, the Hon. GERALD
RICE, two-year-old, officer in the
Irish Guards."
Infantry?

Every Wednesday in the Telegraph:

Sitting on the
Fence
by NATHANIEL
GUBBINSWELL," said the Sweep, "I see
little old Gandhi's orf is feed
again."

"Go on?" I said.

"According to the papers," said the
Sweep, "he's goin on a fast if they
don't stop the riots in India. Cor
strike a light, what's the use of doin
that?"

"No idea," I said.

"Ere we ave art the world ungr,"
said the Sweep, "and ere we ave
little old Gandhi sulk in over is dates
because one lot of Indians is chuck-
in bricks at another lot of Indians."

"That's right," I said.

"And I suppose if they cut up a
bit too rough he won't drink is gont's
milk neither."

"I suppose not."

"Cor sufferin wars," said the
Sweep, "it's like a little kid that
don't win all the games at a party."

"It certainly is."

"All the same, you ave to remem-
ber is age. There's lots of people
git a bit childlike when they ain't far
off 80."

"They certainly do."

"Though, so far as I can remem-
ber," said the Sweep, "little old
Gandhi was never properly growed
up."

"Really?" I said.

"When he wasn't pushin is plate
away because they adn't got Ome
Rule, he was playin with a spinnin
wheel or cachin is death of cold
walkin about in is under pants. So
what can you do with a man like
that?"

"Search me," I said.

"He must ave been a great trial
in the ome," said the Sweep.
"He certainly must."

Hot Weather

"And now he's got what he wants
and everybody thought he was goin
to be eppy and satisfied he's orf on
another unger strike."

"That's right."

"There's no pleasins some people,"
said the Sweep.

"There ain't," I said.

"And as for them there little old
Indians," said the Sweep, "all the
unger strikin in the world won't
make them love each other."

"It won't," I said.

"Religion again," said the Sweep.
"That's it," I said."And the ot weather, too," said the
Sweep.

"Probably," I said.

"There's nothink like ot weather
and a bit of an argument to git your
dander up."

"Nothink."

"I reckon it's lucky they're all
teetotalers," said the Sweep. "Cor
luvduke, there wouldn't art be
some trouble if they took a pint or
two."

"Not arf there wouldn't."

"An Irish pub on a Saturday night
wouldn't be in it."

"No," I said.

According To Culbertson

(Copyright, 1946, by Ely Culbertson)

To-day's deal occurred in the re-
cent Masters' Pair Championship.
It contains several important bid-
ding points.North, dealer.
Neither side vulnerable.

Match-point scoring.

NORTH
♦ A J 4
♥ Q 7
♦ 2
♠ A 10 8 7 6 5 3

WEST
♦ K 9 8
♥ A 10 8 6 5 3 2
♦ K 7 4
♠ K Q J 10 9 8

EAST
♦ K 7 3
♥ K J
♦ J 8 6
♠ K Q J 10 9 8

SOUTH
♦ Q 8 2
♥ 9 4
♦ A Q 10 8 6 3
♠ 2

This was the bidding at one
table:

North East South West
1 North 1 East 1 South 1 West
2 North 2 East 2 South 2 West
3 North 3 East 3 South 3 West
4 North 4 East 4 South 4 West

Both East and West bid the hand
badly. For one thing, East's double
of three clubs was too good to bemade—it was virtually a clinch that
South could not stand this double
and would run to three diamonds.
Actually, of course, South might
have made that bid anyway, but if
North had only six clubs and South
had two, the contract might end in
three clubs if East held his fire.This, however, is subject to the
qualification that West should not
have sold out to either three clubs
or three diamonds—he should have
rebid his long heart suit, especially
since East had implied some sort of
heart support by entering the
auction with no-trump. By careful
management South made three
diamonds for an excellent match-
point score, whereas with equally
good play, West could have made a
game in hearts. This would involve
finessing for the heart queen,
despite the nine cards in the two
hands, because of the necessity for
reaching dummy (East) twice, to
pass the club king in order to
establish clubs for future use.Even after East's double of three
clubs West did not have the material
for a double of three diamonds;
therefore, it was entirely logical to
do a little more competing. In all
probability East would not have bid
again over three hearts, but neither
would the opponents, and West
didn't have to bid game to make an
excellent match-point score.1st Pioneer: Pass the bear meat
sandwiches, old timer.2nd Pioneer: Pass the apple jack,
old timer.1st Pioneer: Do you know who
they're runnin for president next
election, old timer?2nd Pioneer: No, old timer, I
don't know who they're runnin for
president next election.1st Pioneer: Why, that old Choc-
taw Injun chief, Big Moon Face Sit-
ting Hangover.2nd Pioneer: Geeze, that old
bellyful of firewater?1st Pioneer: They say the 'only
way to round up them Injuns is to
shoot the chiefs.2nd Pioneer: And the best way
to get em shot is to make em pres-
idents of the United States?1st Pioneer: You said it, old
timer.3rd Pioneer: Mighty fine. Mighty
fine.

Doggies, doggies

AFTER the great war the great let
down. Nobody you know is
quite honest. Even men whose
personal integrity was once beyond
question will break the law—even
if it is only to break some bread
with their soup in a restaurant.Men who would once look you
straight in the eye—too straight
sometimes for genuine honesty—now
avoid your glance because they have
half a pound of tea in that bulging
overcoat pocket.And why is that man who sneered
at trade so chummy with the
butcher?We have all noticed this gradual
demoralisation of the English who
were once the most trusted of all the
people on earth, except the
Chinese.We have all noticed it and a great
number of people have already re-
marked upon it both in the news-
papers and on the radio.Most have regretted the change in
the English character, believing it
will reform itself, and a few, like
your Uncle Nat, have merely ob-
served that it is easy to be honest
when you have plenty. That is the
reason why most well-to-do people
keep out of prison.But here is a piece of news which
will shake the English more pro-
foundly than the contemplation of
their own delinquencies.

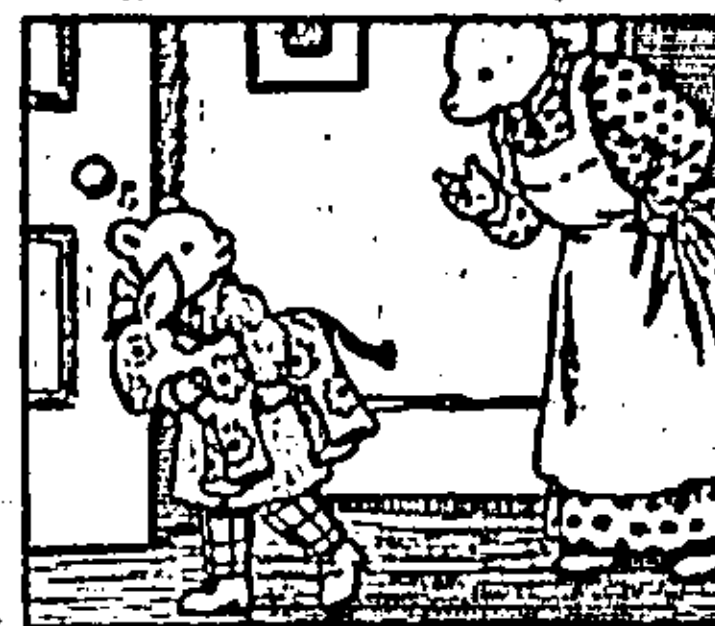
The doggies have let them down.

WHO, apart from the English and
the Chinese, are the most
trusted creatures on earth?
Why, the doggies, of course.Who have faithful brown eyes
that are without guile that shine
with love and devotion and seem to
say "Ask me anything and I will
give it, even life itself!"Why, the doggies, of course.
And who among the doggies is the
most faithful and devoted of all
doggies?Your Uncle Nat is no expert on
doggies, but he always thought it
was the St. Bernard, the doggie that
moons around the mountains with a
slink of brandy round its neck.
Even the can like a doggie who
does that.But according to reports from
Switzerland a number of St. Ber-
nards attacked two girls. One
escaped, the other was badly bitten.
Before the dogs could drag her away
to their kennels monks beat them
off with sticks.No doubt the doggies were hungry
(in foreign countries they don't
overfeed doggies), and no doubt
they regarded the girls as a bit of
meat off the ration.But are doggies no better than
Englishmen when things are in short
supply? Are they no better morally
than the man who gets chummy
with the butcher? Cannot one trust
anybody, anything? Not even those
faithful brown eyes?

Doggies, doggies, now could you?

Gubbins news
serviceDESPITE the report that Field-
Marshal Ralph Ingersoll has re-
signed from the editorship of the
American newspaper P.M. because
the proprietor thought that a few
paid advertisements might help to
pay wages, including the editor's,
those in touch with inner military
and diplomatic circles believe that
the resignation is no more than a
blind to cover an appointment of
some importance which may affect
the future of high military strategy.Although it is realised that the
Field-Marshal always objected to
advertisements, it is also realised
that nobody in his right mind could
believe that a newspaper could be
run without them. It is therefore
believed that the military genius
of the famous critic of Field-Marshal
Montgomery will soon and his right-
ful place among the councils of the
Anglo-American High Command.

Rupert and Ninky—15

Rupert sets Ninky on his feet
again and then he and his mother
sit and look at him, wondering what
he will do next. But the cloth
donkey doesn't move any more. He
only stands gazing into the fire.
"It's a complete mystery," declares
Mrs. Bear. "I finished making him
less than half an hour ago and now
he's moved all his pieces. I'll
see what Bill thinks," says Rupert,
"but I shall not wrap him up. I'll
hold him tight under my arm."
And, putting on his coat, he sets
off.
ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

Crossword Puzzle

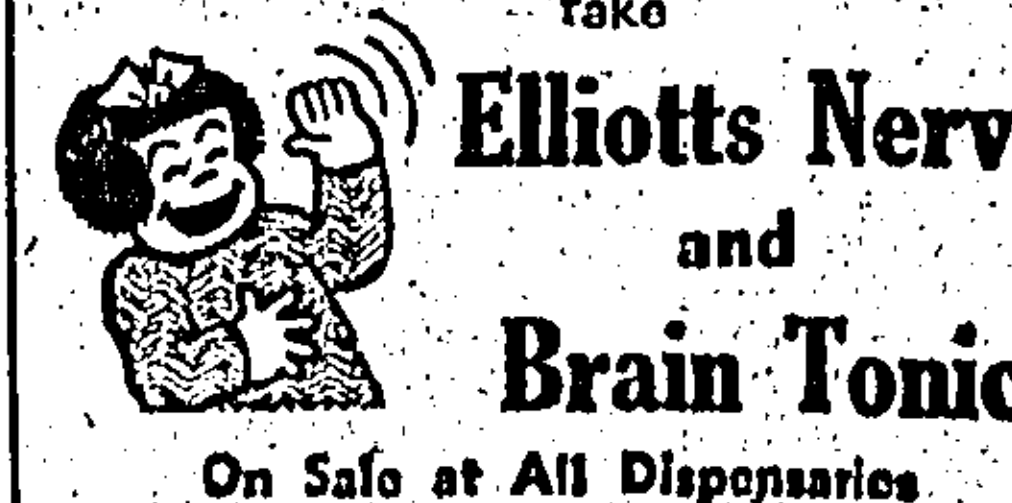
ACROSS

1—Lake in Sahara
2—Empty space
3—Church seat
4—Location
5—Thin
6—High note
7—Burden
8—Biblical land
9—Heating device
10—Black mark
11—Watch faces
12—Play on piano
13—Dresses
14—Dilate (abbr.)
15—Stage
16—Laws
17—Clergyman
18—Empty space
19—Over poet
20—Small bit of
21—Changed
22—Worship
23—Shows mercy
24—Expected
25—City of Bactria
26—Wolfhound
27—Shred
28—File
29—California rock
30—Corroded
31—Common vehicle
32—Russia

DOWN

1—Clashed
2—Rabbit
3—Pine tree
4—Degrade
5—Dangle
6—Filled with joy
7—Lamp
8—Its capital is
Madrid
9—Jot
10—Entrance
11—Wanders
12—Worshiper of
the sun
13—Pastry-covered
meat rolls
14—Cross tie
15—Inclie
16—Mace
17—Knock
18—It is (coast)
19—Before
20—Deer
21—Still
22—Depresses
23—Do it over again
24—Cock-fighting pit
25—Drove
26—Distant
27—Hundred
28—African port
29—Alaskan city
30—Carm
31—Age

NANCY Enough Are Too Many

When You Feel Tired
and Restless
take
Elliott's Nerve
and
Brain Tonic

Germany May Get Back Agricultural Areas

During the coming peace talks on Germany the United States will propose that a large part of the German rich agricultural areas in the east, now occupied by Poland, should be returned to Germany, says Associated Press quoting reliable sources in Berlin.

The American contention will be that Germany cannot be self-sustaining with a loss of 25 per cent of her best agricultural land and that this loss will only provide a talking point for a new war.

United States proposals, which are expected to receive support from Britain, are that Poland should retain the former rich German industrial area of Silesia, the half of East Prussia they now occupy and the once free city of Danzig.

The agricultural areas of Pomerania and Brandenburg, now occupied by Polish troops, once again would become part of the postwar Germany, according to the present United States proposal as envisioned in Berlin. It is pointed out that Poland, a predominantly agricultural area, has enough farm lands for her own needs and Silesia would give her a rich industrial area.

At the same time, the loss of the Pomeranian and Brandenburg farm lands cut an estimated 25 per cent from Germany's food production. Always a food deficit country, Germany is now worse off than ever before with the Western occupation powers in the position of having to make huge expenditures to import food for a defeated foe.

Bobbed War Potentials

The United States has recognized Polish territorial claims both at Yalta and Potsdam, but with time had made it clear, together with Britain and Russia, that final settlements could only be made at a peace conference on Germany and that present arrangements were provisional.

In presenting its position to the Big Four, the United States is expected to point out that by losing Silesia,

Germany will be robbed of her war potential. No such justification can be made out, however, for the agricultural lands of Pomerania and Brandenburg.

France, seeking widespread territorial changes in the west, is expected to side with Poland against any change in the present position.

The position of Russia has not been made clear.

U.S. GOODWILL MISSION TO DALAI LAMA

A goodwill mission bearing gifts from the President of the United States to the Dalai Lama of Tibet may leave New Delhi some time this year to "establish contact" between the government of the United States and the authorities governing the approximately 2,000,000 inhabitants of this 426,000 square miles of mountainous country, reports United Press.

The 1945 Tibetan mission which went to New Delhi to negotiate with the British Government, brought gifts from the American President and in the normal course of diplomatic procedure this calls for reciprocation.

Neither roads nor railways connect India with Tibet. The American Tibetan would have to struggle over narrow mountain caravan routes in the age-old manner across the windy, snow-swept passes of the world's highest mountains.

The sending of such a mission would raise delicate diplomatic issues because Tibet is nominally a province of China, although since the 1912 overthrow of the Manchu dynasty, Chinese authority has been purely nominal.

British Trade Treaty

Britain has for years dealt directly with the Tibet authorities, maintaining the fine distinction that Tibet is under Chinese "sovereignty" but not under Chinese "sovereignty." As a result, Britain has a treaty with the Tibetan Government providing for maintenance of an Indian trade route and a small British garrison at a point along the route.

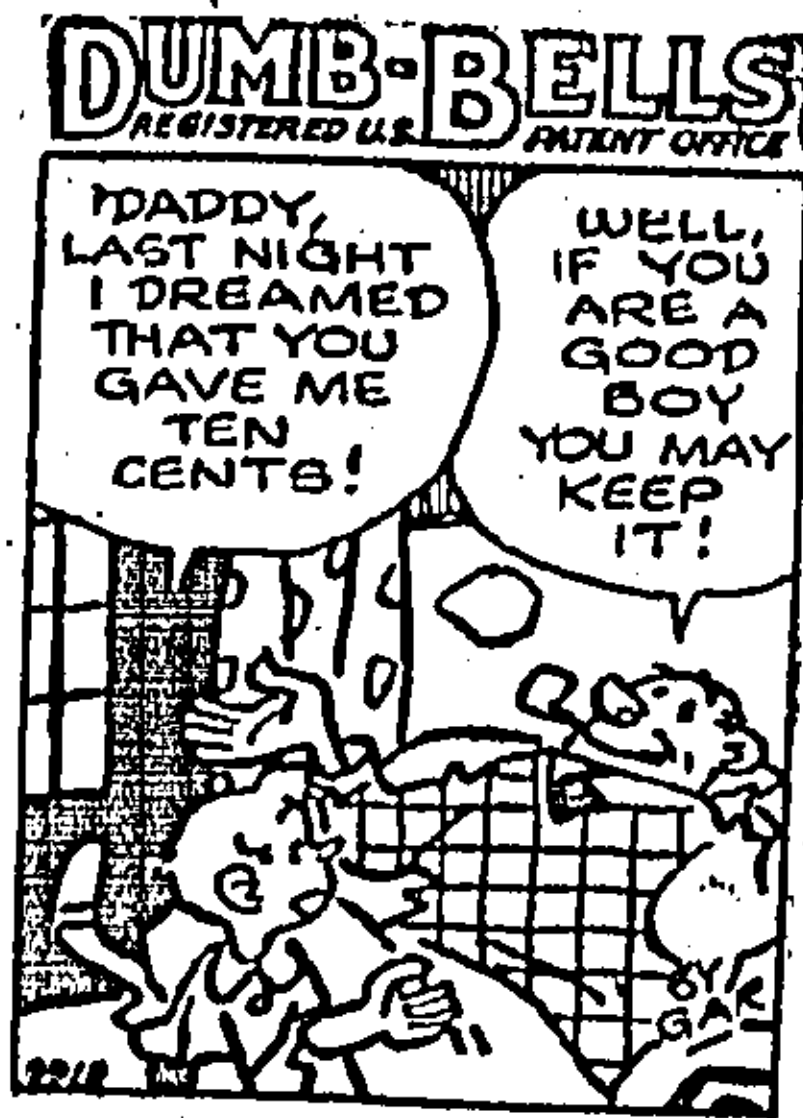
America's first and only official relations with Tibet took place during the war when two OSS officers were sent into Tibet to explore the possibility of sending supplies from India to beleaguered China across the Himalayas. It was hoped that this flow of goods could supplement the dangerous and expensive Hump air route, but the officers reported that the long, precarious journey, with supplies borne on the backs of coolies in the face of Tibetan hostility, was not practical.

Many private traders, however, braved the risks and discomforts to bring goods from India to China to sell in the lush black markets of import-starved, wartime China.

U.S. Mission to Nepal

Plans for the diplomatic contact with Tibet, marking the extension of American diplomacy to one of the world's remotest and least-known regions, follows a recent diplomatic mission to the small Himalayan kingdom of Nepal.

George Merrill, United States Charge d'Affaires in India, travelled by foot and pack animal into this closed country last November to decorate its Maharajah and prepare the way for eventual American consular representation in this land from which Britain's hardy Gurkha soldiers hail.



MacArthur On Moral Force Of Christianity

General Douglas MacArthur says that the principles underlying the Christian faith furnished the moral force for the defeat of the Japanese Empire and provided the philosophy for treatment of the fallen foe.

In a letter to Dr Roy G. Ross, general secretary of the International Youth Week in the United States and Canada, which will be from January 26 to February 2, MacArthur said that the Christian faith "has formed a sturdy cornerstone upon which has rested our national strength."

"There was the great moral force which steered our arm and steered our aim as our armies stormed their way from Australia to the heart of the Japanese Empire. Thereafter, those high principles of human relationship—tolerance and justice, the basic dogma of our Christian faith—formed the very key arch to the philosophy underlying all policy governing treatment of our vanquished foe in the occupation of Japan," Associated Press.

COAL SHORTAGE HITS ART

The Ueno Art School in Tokyo has been compelled to suspend classes for painting nudes lest the models contract illness because of cold, says the Mainichi.

The paper said that the school, which was previously allotted three tons of coal a month, has received no coal since December.

The report added that hospitals in Tokyo were suffering because the stringent coal shortage restricts surgical operations to an average of once a week. It also said that newborn babies were able to receive baths about once every three or four days.

NO BEARDS FOR BOXERS

The South African National Amateur Boxing Association is to discuss whether competitors can enter the ring wearing beards.

In the recent Rhodesian championships a former Navy boxer weighed in wearing a beard.

Officials considered that it gave him an unfair advantage and he was submitted to a test in which hard blows aimed at his chin did not affect him.

He was asked to shave before he took part in the championships.

Control Of Radio Reporters

Humberto Russi, Argentine national director of radio, says his government now requires news reporters for foreign radio chains to obtain prior approval of their scripts before transmitting abroad.

This ruling, which in effect means that radio news reporters can transmit only those dispatches stamped as approved by the government, is "not intended to be censorship," said Russi. Rather, it is a move "only taken so the government would know the contents of the scripts before they go abroad," Associated Press.

Swiss-Bulgarian Trade Pact

Bulgaria and Switzerland have signed a trade agreement amounting to 17,000,000 Swiss francs, reports Associated Press.

Bulgaria will export tobacco and furs to Switzerland in return for Swiss drugs, chemicals and machinery.

Record Film First Night Crowd

A crowd of 30,000, including stars of stage and screen, representatives of the United Nations and other public figures, turned out in New York for the opening of the film, "Razor's Edge."

It is the screen adaptation of Somerset Maugham's novel and stars Tyrone Power and Gene Tierney.

HIGHLAND NEWSLETTER

(By A Special Correspondent)

There is bitter controversy in Inverness-shire over the question of requisitioning empty houses for the housing of families who have no adequate accommodation.

Of course, everyone agrees with the "principle" of requisitioning these empty houses but now that many large country houses and shooting lodges, which are unoccupied except for two or three months in the summer, are threatened the owners are raising a fierce outcry.

In the Badenoch district of Inverness-shire there are about 150 families in need of homes, many of them families of ex-Servicemen. Yet, although the County Housing Officer submitted a list of about 40 houses in the Badenoch district which he considered suitable for requisitioning, only 18 were taken over. Proprietors, some of them members of the County Council, protest that they are threatened with confiscation of their property.

Delaying Ruse

They contend that they ought to be consulted in the first place and that the matter can very well be decided by the County Council—in which the land-owning interests are in the majority—and that there is no need to approach the Secretary of State for Scotland on the matter. They want further inquiries to be made locally and they want full details as to the cost of converting the properties in question into suitable dwellings for the people.

The leader of the requisitioning movement, Capt Desmond Thomson, argues that this is merely a ruse to delay the whole matter until such time as the empty houses and shooting lodges would be occupied in the usual way—for a month or two.

One titled lady accused Capt Thomson of being a snob, but Captain Thomson contends that he is merely doing his duty. There is no objection, he points out, to the owners of large empty houses putting in any tenants they please—so long as they do not in tenants. If they do not, then the houses ought to be requisitioned.

Helped British Prisoners

When Mr Zaire Costante, a Forres shipkeeper, left the Highlands in 1940 to return to his native Italy the townsfolk wondered, and when he returned to resume his business after the war they were still wondering. What had he been up to?

The answer to this question is to be found in a certificate which Mr Costante carries about in his pocket. It reads: "This certificate is awarded to Zaire Costante as a token of gratitude for his help and co-operation of the help given to the Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen of the British Commonwealth of Nations, which enabled them to escape from or evade capture by the enemy." The certificate is signed, "H. H. Alexander, Field Marshal, Supreme Allied Commander, Mediterranean Theatre."

Mr. Costante returned to Italy in 1940 on his doctor's advice and when Italy entered the war he was unable to return to Scotland. He was subjected to close supervision by the Fascists who regarded him with suspicion, and even his wireless set was commandeered.

Fifty miles from where he lived was a prisoner of war camp, occupied mainly by British personnel, and it was from this camp that Mr. Costante and a few friends assisted many of our men to escape. Had he been caught not only he but also his wife and family would have suffered the usual fate.

But for a casual remark to a friend about this certificate, which he has just received, the Forres people might still be wondering what he was doing in Italy during the War years.

Balmacarra Estate

A meeting is to be held in the near future between the National Trust for Scotland and representatives of various industrial and cultural bodies to discuss the best means of developing the potentialities of the 1000-acre Balmacarra Estate and Balmacarra House in Western Ross-shire, which were bequeathed to the Trust by the late Lady Hamilton.

The Trustees have considered the development of the village of Kyle on the estate as a key point in the Western Highlands, as a railhead for access to the Skye and Hebridean shipping services and as a fishing port with great possibilities. It would also make a most suitable centre for small farming factories and for the processing of fish and farm produce.

There is talk about the best possible use for Balmacarra House. A chorus of house-stickers will probably provide an answer to that question.

Meter Registers Opinions

A new opinion meter that registers all shades of opinion—as well as simple yes or no—has been invented, says Associated Press.

The meter will take 100 different opinions at one time, and will show the result on a dial that reads from 0 to 100 percent.

TEN YEARS TO CLEAR COLOGNE

Ten years should be long enough to clear the rubble from Cologne, the first city to be rocked by a 1,000-plane air raid. When the rubble has been cleared, the skeleton walls of gutted buildings must come down. Then the real job of rebuilding can begin.

Cologne is as spectacular a ruin as any of the 50 first cities of Germany. It is more spectacular than most. In addition to damage from many air raids, the city suffered from heavy ground fighting in the outskirts.

The result was the almost complete wreckage of the inner city—the area inside the semi-circular "ring road" which starts and ends on the east bank of the Rhine. Scarcely a building—from the famous Cathedral to the tiny houses in the narrow alleys—escaped serious damage, says United Press.

In the city as a whole, 80 per cent of the buildings were damaged. Before the war, Cologne had a large tourist trade. To accommodate visitors, it had 7,000 hotel rooms. Only 100 are left. The largest hotel has 18 rooms intact.

Reduction of Population

Cologne's prewar population of 702,000 shrank to 40,000 at the time of the city's fall, but has now risen to 520,000. The housing problem is prodigious. It is aggravated by lack of labour and all kinds of building materials—except salvaged bricks.

The war left 12,000,000 tons of rubble in Cologne, plus the jagged walls which jut from the wreckage. At first, the debris was merely shovelled out of the streets to permit resumption of traffic.

Rain and sun have "melted down" this mass into a putty-like substance laced with stone, steel and wood. It has become almost immovable.

Under a voluntary rubble clearance programme, every man between 18 and 60 and every woman between 18 and 45 is asked to contribute a nine-hour work day every four months.

Ninety-two per cent of the able-bodied residents of Cologne do their share of this work. But unless the job can be speeded, children of eight will be summoned to the task.

Singapore's Inter-Racial Country Club

A first class inter-racial country club, providing facilities for swimming, dancing and playing golf and tennis, will be open to all communities in Singapore when the Island Club completes its \$300,000 scheme for a new two or three-storey clubhouse and swimming pool, says the Straits Times.

Besides having a good dance floor, the new building will include card rooms and all modern amenities. The Island Club has previously always been in intention a social club. Although in the past, the golf course has been its main feature, it has not been forgotten that provision should be made for such matters as tennis courts and other recreations, as well as the swimming pool.

During the occupation the clubhouse fell into disrepair and some of the main timbers of the roof were eaten through and collapsed. Parts of the main supporting beams of the side walls were also rendered completely useless by white ants and dry rot.

It was therefore decided to pull down the old building which had never been intended for use as a permanent clubhouse.

Youths' Liquid Propellant

Inspired 10 years ago by comic strip rocket scientists, a group of high school and college students has developed a new secret liquid propellant which may have valuable military and peacetime uses, reports United Press from California.

The fuel has worked with unexpected success on a few experimental "baby" rockets fired from the group's dry riverbed proving grounds. It has been offered for tests in rockets such as the German V-2.

"If our fuel is an improvement over what the army now has, we will be proud of our contribution," 18-year-old George James, a Glendale junior college student, said. "If it is less effective, our work will have ruled out one possibility and indirectly advanced rocket research."

The young scientists are now working on rockets that may move mud-strewn or snowbound motor cars, shoot ropes across canyons and drop extinguisher chemicals into the centre of uncontrolled fires.

They still dream and plan super-rockets of the comic strip variety which got them interested in the game.

SHOWING TO-DAY **KINGS** At 2.30, 5.10, 7.15 & 9.15 p.m.



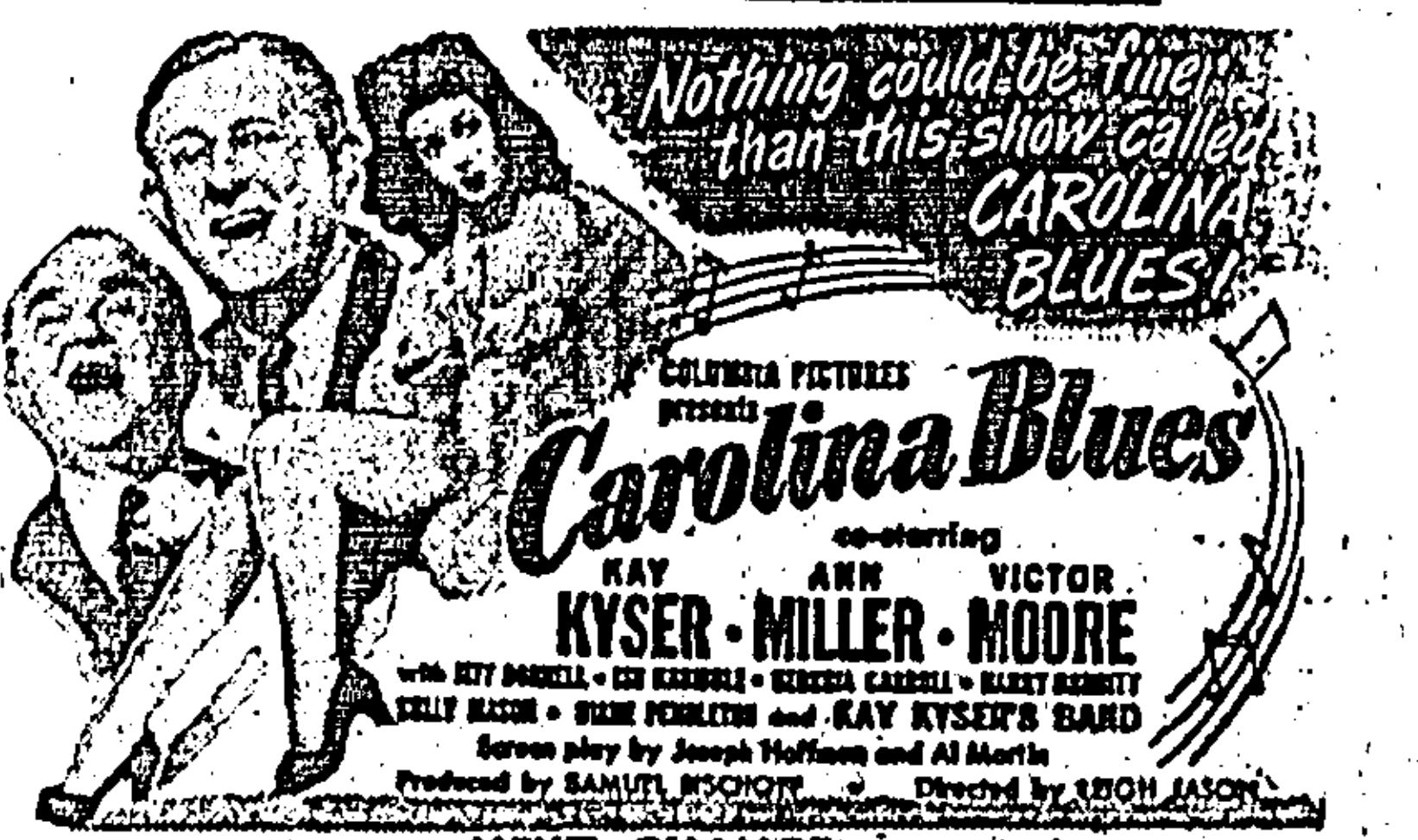
ADDED! SPECIAL PRIZES PARAMOUNT NEWS

COMING SOON: MARGARET LOCKWOOD, Anne CRAWFORD, Jan HUNTER, Barry K. BARNES in

VERA CASPARY'S "BEDELIA"

A JOHN CORFIELD Production — Released by EAGLE-LION

TO-DAY & TOMORROW **LEE THEATRE** AT 2.30, 5.10, 7.15 & 9.15 p.m.



JOE E. BROWN "THE DARING YOUNG MAN"

ORIENTAL

SHOWING TO-DAY: 2.30-5.15-7.15-9.15 P.M. AN EXCITING PICTURE FROM A FAMOUS NOVEL! With Superb Artistic and Daring!



Commencing To-morrow: "STANDING ROOM ONLY"

CATHAY SHOWING TO-DAY At 2.30, 5.15, 7.15 & 9.15 p.m.

THE WORLD'S GREATEST LOVE SONGS... ROMANCE THAT THRILLS... SPECTACLE THAT ENCHANTS... IN M-G-M'S MIGHTIEST TRIUMPH!

"CHOCOLATE SOLDIER"

Starring: NELSON EDDY • RISE STEVENS M-G-M's Picture

Marbles Loses Its G.O.M.

Sam Spooner, who five times won the English marbles championship, is dead, according to the News Chronicle.

He first won it 50 years ago and was well on in his eighties—some people say he was on the verge of ninety—but he retained his interest in "knuckling down" to the last.

Although other champions came and went at Tinsley Green, near Crawley, where the championship has been staged every Good Friday for over 300 years, Sam always appeared at the contests.

With his luxuriant white whiskers and old felt hat, he would offer his expert comments and, despite his age, would kneel and take a cunning hand at the game himself. Sam took part in the games at Tinsley Green last Good Friday.



POSITIONS VACANT

APPLICATIONS are invited from certified or qualified navigating or diesel engineer officers for employment as Coast Star Officers on the ships of the Chinese Maritime Customs Service. Employment is also offered to men experienced in navigating small craft. Applicants are interviewed at the Office of the Chinese Maritime Customs, 4th Floor, Marine House, Queen's Road, Central.

SIDE GLANCES

By Galbraith



"If I had a couple of bucks I could date Marge tonight, Dad—her father, by the way, is an automobile dealer!"

Wide Raids In India

SEQUEL TO LOSS OF DEFENCE PLAN

New Delhi, Jan. 15. Raids on Communist headquarters and private houses were conducted widely over India yesterday.

The raids were evidently an effort to recover interior defence plans, parts of which had been published in Communist papers.

The Government of India Press Information Section declared that the raids were not ordered by the Central Government, but were carried out apparently with the co-operation of provincial governments.

In the Delhi raids, the New Delhi police said they seized a number of pamphlets called "Operation Anytum."

F. H. Bridgeman, Superintendent of the Criminal Investigation Division of the Delhi police, said the pamphlet had been published in Bengal and when found in the raids, it was seized. He declined to say whether that was the only document caught by the police.—Associated Press.

SUPPRESSING DACOITS

Rangoon, Jan. 15. U. Mya, acting Minister for Home and Social Affairs, said to-day that Indian regiments have been summoned to help suppress disturbances started by Dacoit gangs with "robbery, looting and terrorism" in Yamethin and Pinnana districts.

He said that units of the Black Cat Division (the veteran 17th Indian Division) "have played their part."

He described the Dacoits as having "Communist tendencies" and added that "precautionary measures are being taken and we are certain of controlling the situation"—Associated Press.

Foreign Service Pay Revised

London, Jan. 14. The official London Gazette to-night published a new pay scale and code of conduct for members of Britain's foreign service.

The pay scale ranges from £3,500 for a permanent Under-Secretary of State and heads of major missions to £2,750 for starting Third Secretaries. The code warned career diplomats that marriage to a citizen might diminish their utility and might even result in "there being no post in the foreign service to which they can properly be appointed."

The code also bars members of the Foreign Service from running for Parliament and states that as a rule, women members will be required to resign upon marriage.

Should a member of the Foreign Service become involved in a divorce suit, the Secretary of State may under certain circumstances call on him to resign.—United Press.

BURMA LEADERS' STATEMENT

London, Jan. 14. The Burmese political leaders, when they meet the Prime Minister, Mr. Clement Attlee, and Cabinet Ministers for the first of their self-government talks, will submit a ten-page memorandum which is in effect a statement of Burma's political aims and demands.—Reuter.

Hamburg Shipyard Strike Ends

Hamburg, Jan. 14. The strike of 600 German shipyard workers in the Deutsche Werft yards in Hamburg ended this morning when the men returned to work on repairing two British ships.

The men stopped work on Friday after complaining that they were unable to work because of the freezing conditions.—Reuter.

Review Of Rape Sentence

Washington, Jan. 15. The War Department has set January 24 to review the court martial conviction of Private Leo Christensen on a rape charge in Japan. He was sentenced to death there.—Associated Press.

GREEK GUERRILLAS STILL ACTIVE

Athens, Jan. 14. Guerrillas tore up the railway track between Salonika and Drama, northeastern Greece, to-day and blew up a bridge about 14 miles north of Salonika. It was reported here to-night.

It was the fourth railway wrecking operation in Greece this week. Traffic between Macedonia and Thrace was interrupted.

Seven guerrillas were reported killed and 12 wounded in an engagement with Greek regular forces in the Groven area of western Macedonia.—Reuter.

DUTCH SEARCHED BRITISH SHIP, GAVE NO REASON

Batavia, Jan. 15. The Captain of the British merchantman, Empire May Rover, Mr. Gilbert Kent of Chingford, London, said in Batavia yesterday that the Netherlands Navy "without explanation" intercepted his vessel on January 8, placed armed guards aboard and forced the ship to leave the Nationalist held port of Cheribon under the escort of a Dutch corvette.

CHOU EN-LAI CRITICISES MARSHALL

Nanking, Jan. 15. Yenan Radio to-day quoted Gen Chou En-lai, No. 2 man of the Chinese Communists, as sharply criticising Gen George C. Marshall's farewell statement blaming reactionaries in both the Government and Communist camps for failure to achieve coalition and peace.

The Yenan broadcast said Gen Chou expressed regret that Gen Marshall, when criticising the Kuomintang reactionaries, failed to mention that Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek is the highest leader of this reactionary group.

Gen Chou accused Gen Marshall of "hasty thinking" if he believed any coalition government was possible under the continued leadership of Generalissimo Chiang, even with the assistance of Party Liberals and minority representatives.—Associated Press.

Search For Missing Explorer

London, Jan. 15. Clinging to the belief that Colonel P. H. Fawcett, the British explorer, is still alive after 21 years of absence, an expedition headed by C. R. Spriggs will soon travel to Brazil to search the jungles for him.

Primarily, the expedition will be one to seek gold and diamonds, but Spriggs, who says he may be away as long as 10 years, holds out the hope that he may either find Fawcett or learn the facts about his mysterious disappearance.

The adventure's hope has been enhanced by the recent statement of Mrs Fawcett, wife of the lost explorer, that she still believes her husband is "alive and is carrying on the work he set out to do—to open the Brazilian jungle for others to follow."

She said that when she was recently in South America she heard stories that her husband had been seen and that evidence of his whereabouts had been found.

The theory that Fawcett has been held prisoner by some Amazon tribe has been advanced by Mrs E. Jacke, Fawcett's sister.

Mrs Fawcett, however, holds that the explorer "never intended to come back when he set out in 1925 to explore the Green Hell jungles of the Mato Grosso." She says he told her that if he was captured by wild tribesmen he would stay with them and "bring them to understand the white man's way of living." Later, she said, he intended to send for his wife and children of the tribes.

"I am getting old now, but if that message came I would still go," she said.—Associated Press.

Suicide Of Hitler Fanatic

London, Jan. 14. The man for whom the Portuguese police have been searching since he escaped from detention camp in November, 1945, Dr Herbert Wissmann, the last German press attache in Lisbon, committed suicide by poison when the police went to arrest him to-day.

The man died he uttered the cry, "Heil Hitler." Police agents found Wissmann hiding in his own house in Lisbon to-day. When they tried to arrest him he swallowed a phial of poison.

Hiding in the same house the police also found Adolf Nassenstein, who had been classed by the Allied authorities as "a dangerous Gestapo agent."

Nassenstein attempted to shoot himself but his gun misfired and he is now under arrest. Both Wissmann—who was known to be active as a Nazi agent during the war—and Nassenstein were on the Allied "dangerous Germans" list.

They were part of a group of wanted Germans who were to have been repatriated by air to Germany soon after the war ended but failed to present themselves at the airport.

Other Germans who evaded the police at the same time are still at large.—Reuter.

LAWSUITS AGAIN

Frankfurt, Jan. 14. Permission for the resumption of private lawsuits in German courts has been granted by the Legal Department of the U.S. Military Government.

Since the beginning of the occupation private actions were dealt with by State Prosecutors only if such course was in public interest.—Reuter.

Chinese Losses In Palembang

Singapore, Jan. 14. The Chinese community in Palembang, oil refining centre in southeast Sumatra, has requested the Chinese Chamber of Commerce here to organise a protest meeting against the 1,000 Chinese casualties during clashes between Dutch and Indonesians.

The Dutch were alleged to have shelled the Palembang market place from the river and to have attacked the Indonesians with machineguns without warning the Chinese.

Dr. Wu Pak-shing, Chinese Consul-General here, to whom a report of the affair has been made, has communicated with the Chinese Consul-General in Batavia and asked him to bring the matter before the proper authorities.

A relief ship is leaving here with food and medicine for Chinese refugees at Palembang.

Some 5,000 Chinese have been made homeless, Mr. Chan Yin-se, Chairman of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce at Palembang, said to-day.

He said that both the Dutch and Indonesians were to be blamed, as the Dutch shelling and gunfire caused direct damage to Chinese property and loss of life, while certain Indonesian elements committed arson and looting.—Reuter.

Japan Purge Completed

Tokyo, Jan. 14. The Supreme Allied Command has completed its purges of the war-cracking elements of Japanese society and further purges are unlikely, it was learned in official quarters to-day.

The extremely severe purge system under way for more than a year, has swept from public life and business leadership thousands of Japanese who were the leaders of Japan up to September 2, 1945.

Coming soon after the occupation started, the system was designed as part of the broad programme for punishing those responsible for plunging Japan into her war of aggression. It was intended to open the way for the emergence of new leaders whose ideals were in line with the new domestic constitution.—United Press.

SAUDI ARABIA CONCESSIONS

Washington, Jan. 14. The State Department spokesman to-day withdrew his statement made on January 9 that the United States Government had rejected the French protest against acceptance of the new oil concessions in Saudi Arabia by two American companies.

The spokesman declared to-day: "This is the case at all. We are giving the matter consideration and will reply in due time. Our position is not settled yet."

He added that his earlier statement was the result of his being "misinformed."

The State Department said on January 9 that Mr. William Clayton, Under-Secretary of State for Economic Affairs, had informed Mr. Henri Bonnet, French Ambassador in Washington, that since the validity of the 1928 agreement, on which the French protest was based, was being contested in London caused by private oil companies the United States would maintain a "hands-off" policy.

Mr. Clayton, he added, said that the agreement was entered into by private companies of Britain, the United States and France and consequently was for discussion on a governmental level.

On the previous day—January 8—Mr. Bonnet had discussed with Mr. Clayton the French view that United States companies had violated the "Red Line agreement" of 1928 by not giving French concerns the opportunity of participation in new oil concessions.—Reuter.

22 KILLED IN NEW AIR CRASH

Puebla, Mexico, Jan. 14. A Mexican Army FE-60 transport plane crashed at the Municipal Airport here to-day, killing all 22 persons aboard.

The victims included 18 officers and men of the Mexican Army.

Witnesses said the plane had just taken off when an engine failed. The pilot brought the plane back to the landing strip, but was unable to land it safely.—United Press.

OFF TO MOSCOW

Paris, Jan. 14. M. Alexander Gombolov, Soviet Ambassador to France, left Paris suddenly for Moscow to-day.

His departure has given rise to considerable speculation in political circles here.—Reuter.

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China, Another Supporter

London Success, Jan. 14. China and Britain were reported to have decided to support the United States demand that atomic control energy be given precedence over world disarmament, if the battle between the United States and Russia comes to a showdown in the Security Council to-morrow.

The U.S. delegation itself was the source of the report.

Warren R. Austin, U.S. Chief delegate to the United Nations, communicated with General George Marshall in Honolulu and received an assurance that there will be no change in the State Department policy, and the United States will maintain its veto power in the punishment of violators of atomic control.—United Press.

Ex-Diplomat's Allegation

New York, Jan. 14. Kirill Alexeev, former Russian diplomat on the commercial attache's staff in the Mexico City Embassy, who deserted his post and refused to return to Russia as ordered, said at a press conference here to-day that the Russian observer in the Bikini tests, Professor P. Alexandrov, is in reality an agent of the NKVD—Russia's dreaded secret police—in which he held the post of commander of the Soviet Union concentration camps.

Alexeev said Russia does not yet possess the secret of the atom bomb but said the Soviet scientists were working feverishly to find it. He said that Communist espionage agents, including members of the NKVD, are operating on a wide scale in the United States and are "particularly interested" in the atom bomb.—United Press.

Under-Secretary For Air On Tour

London, Jan. 15. Mr. Geoffrey de Freitas, Under-Secretary of State for Air, will leave to-day to tour Royal Air Force Commands in Greece, China, Japan, East India, Malaya, France, Kenya and Rhodes.—Associated Press.

No More Priority Air Seats

London, Jan. 14. The holding of seats for priority passengers on nine air routes operated by British European Airways Corporation, will cease from February 3, the British Ministry of Civil Aviation announced to-night.

The routes concerned are between Britain and the following cities: Paris, Copenhagen, Brussels, Oslo, Lisbon, Madrid, Prague, Stockholm and Amsterdam.—Reuter.

Bridge Collapses

Hamburg, Jan. 14. The railway bridge across the Moselle at Coblenz (French zone) collapsed to-day owing to pressure of ice piled up on one of the supporting piers.

There were no casualties. Several people were injured when part of the 700-yards long bridge between Witten and Herbolz collapsed.—Reuter.

TON OF OPIUM DISCOVERED

Shanghai, Jan. 15. A ton of high grade opium valued at \$500,000 (U.S. currency) was discovered in Shanghai yesterday by the police in the courtyard of a Chinese residence.—Associated Press.

GANDHI CONTINUES MARCH

New Delhi, Jan. 15. Gandhi to-day continued his march through East Bengal, carrying his non-violence doctrine into the Noakhali district, which was swept by Hindu-Muslim conflict last October.

There are no rail connections in the area where the 77-year old patriarch is travelling and roads are poor.

With Gandhi are his four black goats and small retinue of personal followers. From village to village, which are close together, followers sing hymns, and at the entrance to many hamlets girls blow on conch shells, a traditional signal in Bengal.

Varying opinions have been expressed as to whether Gandhi is succeeding with his demonstration of force, truth and non-violence. Newspapers loyal to him assert that he is bringing relief to Hindus, recently harassed by Moslems who are in the majority there, and that he is restoring peace and good will. Moslem papers describe the tour as a failure.—Associated Press.

BLUM'S TALKS IMPORTANT

London, Jan. 14. The conversations which M. Leon Blum, French Premier, is having in London are likely to cover a wider range of matters of Anglo-French interest than the allocation of Ruhr coal, according to well-informed quarters in London to-day.

On the possibility of Britain being able to increase the French share in German coal production there is not much optimism in London, but where shortages are already causing serious difficulties. But there is optimism that renewal of Anglo-French contacts at the highest political level will initiate a fresh phase of co-operation between the two countries.

The main business talk between M. Blum and the Foreign Secretary, Mr. Ernest Bevin, will take place at the Foreign Office to-night. It is learned M. Blum's lunch with Mr. Bevin to-day was mainly a social affair. M. Blum spent this morning with Mr. Clement Attlee.

Should the French Premier raise the question of Customs Union the feeling is that such a large question could not be settled in a few talks, even at the highest level. On the other hand, the matter might be referred to an Anglo-French experts committee for discussion.—Reuter.

FRENCH FIND 50 JAP BODIES

(Continued From Page 1)

Ve attacks on Monday, but expected additional fighting later, he said.

In Hanoi, where the French and Viet Nam forces have been battling since December 10, the food situation continued to be critical but efforts were being made to resume rural life in areas outside the fighting area. The city's one undamaged cinema resumed operation, drawing capacity crowds.—Associated Press.

ARMISTICE HOPES FADE

Hanoi, Jan. 14. There is little hope of an early armistice between the French and Viet Nam Nationalists in Indo-China.

The impression gained from talks with many responsible French and Viet Nam officials and the view of the man in the street is that the country faces a prolonged period of bloodshed before political negotiations for a peaceful settlement can be resumed.

The French are determined to stay in Indo-China. The Viet Namhese are doing their utmost to force them to quit. Meanwhile, thousands of acres of rice plantations lie unattended, threatening within the next 12 months a food shortage in a country which previously produced a yearly exportable surplus of over one million tons.

The official viewpoint in Saigon—which in some respects resembles Cairo during the phase of the North African war or Kandy during the South-east Asia war—is that the situation is comparatively calm and under control.

In Hanoi, from the French High Commissioner in Tonkin to the French private who has already collected three rounds from the Germans and one from the Viet Namhese, everyone agrees that "this is no police operation and no localised skirmish against a few headbangers."

The Viet Namhese who fight with some Japanese 75 millimetre guns and machineguns, some American guns and home-made revolvers, and with swords know that they cannot stand any pitched battle against French Spitfires and artillery.

But they believe that there is practically no limit to their unity to carry on guerrilla warfare in the villages and paddy fields.

Many Annamites appear to be deserting to the Viet Namhese, the aim of their struggle—and much of the fighting spirit of the uprising is attributed to the influence and power of the extremist Viet Namhese Party.—Reuter.

Four-Power Deputies Open Talks In London

By Reuter's Diplomatic Correspondent

London, Jan. 14. The main decision taken at this afternoon's opening meeting of the special deputies of the Big Four Foreign Ministers, charged with preparing the German and Austrian peace settlements, was that the first meeting on Germany is to take place at 10.30 a.m. to-morrow, and the first meeting on Austria at 10.30 a.m. on Thursday.

Sir William Strang said that to far no relevant documents had been received by the special deputies for Austria. It is assumed that a formal note from the Austrian Government on the question of Austrian attendance at the conference, authoritatively understood, to have been handed yesterday by the Austrian Legation in London to the Secretary of the Deputies conference, has not yet been delivered.

The conference to-day also discussed the question of the supply of information to the press. They decided that the press is to be excluded from all sessions and that no regular communiques will be issued.

They agreed, however, that the deputies conference should retain the right to issue agreed four-power communiques whenever it was felt that the occasion demanded it.

For the rest, it was left to each of the individual deputies concerned to make what arrangements he considered proper for the supply of information to journalists who approached him.

After much discussion the conference finally agreed to a proposal from Sir William Strang that the meeting of the special deputies for Germany and Austria due to-morrow and on Thursday should fix their own plan of work.

To-day the deputies agreed that chairmanship is to rotate weekly between the representatives of the Big Four powers, changing on Mondays in the following order: Great Britain (which holds the chairmanship at present), the Soviet Union, the United States and France.

Sir William Strang informed the conference that the special deputies so far before the deputies for Germany which had been supplied in response to the invitation of the Council of Foreign Ministers by 18 smaller Allied Governments were on from Australia dealing with certain matters of the smaller powers from the Netherlands Government on the substance of the German problem. He added that acknowledgments of the invitation from the Foreign Ministers Council had been received from a large number of governments of the smaller powers, together with an assurance that memoranda would be forwarded.

After a long discussion the deputies failed to agree to either of the two alternative proposals for the schedule of future meetings, put forward by Sir William Strang. These were:

1. That over the whole period of the conference the meetings on Austria should be held in the mornings and those on Germany in the afternoons, or

2. That the deputies should themselves decide at each session to meet again.

Soviet Interest In Germany The proposals were opposed by the Soviet Deputy, Gusev, who suggested that it would be better to concentrate first on the German settlement and not to hold any meetings in connection with Austria until some progress had been made on the German question. This proposal was considered by political observers in London to-night to reflect the pre-eminent interest which the Soviet Union feels in going ahead with the groundwork of the German settlement. It was also by now well-known that the Soviet Government to feel that the Austrian treaty is not a matter of urgency.

Welcoming the delegates to the conference, the Foreign Minister, Mr. Bevin, said he hoped it would be possible before the meeting of the Foreign Ministers in Moscow, due to open to March 10, to evolve a treaty with Austria.

Regarding Germany, Mr. Bevin hoped the deputies would not give too much time to procedure but would be possible before the meeting of the Foreign Ministers in Moscow, due to open to March 10, to evolve a treaty with Austria.

Only a handful of policemen, two workmen and a group of reporters watched the four nations' delegates arrive for the momentous peace talks.—Reuter.

But They Wanted The Museum

London, Jan. 14. Just after M. Eyedov Gusev, the Soviet representative, had mounted the steps of Lancaster House, St. James', London, as the last of the deputies of the Big Four Foreign Ministers to arrive at the conference, an old brown taxi chugged laboriously across the deserted courtyard in front of the building.

It came to a standstill under the great vaulted portico on the spot vacated by Gusev's car. It was not easy to see into the interior of the taxi in the general gloom of the courtyard.

The police inspector stopped smartly to open the taxi door after having saluted.

Amazed, he found confronting him a man and woman and two children, leaning forward eagerly from the interior of the taxi.

"Can we have a look around?" said a North of England voice.

The inspector slammed the taxi door shut. In another second it was chugging away as laboriously as it had come.

The taxi driver was heard to say as he left the courtyard, "Well, they are visitors and they wanted to see London Museum. The guide books still have this place as London Museum. Something ought to be done about it."—Reuter.

Planes Grounded

Manila, Jan. 14. Colonel Jesus Villamor, Director of the Bureau of Aeronautics, has ordered the grounding of all Philippine Far East Air Transport Company planes, pending investigations into the crash of one of the company's aircraft into the sea off North Luzon on Saturday.—Reuter.

4,000 THIEVES ARRESTED

Hamburg, Jan. 14. Over 4,000 arrests of coal thieves were made in Hamburg yesterday, the Berlin News Service in Germany stated.

Sixteen times during the day special forces of police were sent out to protect coal trains from looters.—Reuter.

Hamburg Strike Ends

Six hundred German shipyard workers in Deutsche Werft yards, Hamburg, ended their strike this morning and returned to work on repairing two British ships. The men stopped work on Friday after complaining they were unable to work because of freezing conditions.—Reuter.

POLITICAL CRISIS LOOMS IN GREECE

Athens, Jan. 14. The efforts during the past two days to compose the differences between the Populist (Royalist) Government of Constantinos Tsaldaris and the parliamentary opposition before parliament reassembles on Thursday appeared to-day to have failed.

After a two-hour talk with Themistocles Sophoulis, Liberal leader, Tsaldaris reported that he had suggested a "neutral" prime minister but without success.

The political crisis, latent in Greece since November, seems likely to come to a head very soon as the National Liberal Party, led by the Deputy Prime Minister, General Gonatas, upon whose support the Tsaldaris Government depends for its majority in the Assembly, is meeting to-night to consider whether or not to continue to back the government when parliament reassembles on Thursday.

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